

**Environmental Restoration (ER) Project
Cerro Grande Fire
Accelerated Action Information Sheet**

**Potential Release Site (PRS) 18-012(b)
Outfall**

Technical Area (TA)-18 is located off Pajarito Road near the confluence of Pajarito Canyon and Threemile Canyon. The principal activities at TA-18 are the design, construction, research, development, and application of experiments that involve chain reactions of atoms splitting fast enough to be self-sustaining (called nuclear criticality).

PRS History: PRS 18-012(b) is an outfall that receives discharges from several sources, including a sump in the basement of Building 18-30 (see the Status Sheet for PRS 18-001[c]); sinks in Building 18-30 and 18-31; floor drains in Building 18-31; stormwater from the roofs of Building 18-31 and the east wing of Building 18-30; and a welding quench tank in the former machine shop in Building 18-30. The outfall, active since the buildings were constructed in 1950, is located south of Building 18-31.

PRS 18-012(b) is listed on the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments module of the Laboratory's Hazardous Waste Facility permit and has been proposed for no further action. There are indications of residual risk at the site.

Issues of Concern: The area upstream of PRS 18-012(b) burned during the Cerro Grande fire (a fire intensity rating of low to high). There is a potential for



erosion or scouring at the site because the pipe discharges to the surface. There

is no debris that could enter the flood watercourse. The storm sewer and drain line may potentially interfere with flood mitigation efforts because the outfall is within 20 feet of the main drainage channel.

Accelerated Action Status: ER Project evaluated PRS 18-012(b) after the Cerro Grande fire and noted that the site was a potential candidate for additional characterization because the nature and extent of contamination is not known. ER Project personnel collected two surface sediment samples at PRS 18-012(b) after the Cerro Grande fire.

Related Documents: November 2, 1995